276 [103 cont.] old people who are no
longer able to break the nut with their teeth pound it in small
[412] wooden mortars (Fig. 32) (2). According to Figueroa, they

2. Dillon, p. 269. Edge-Partington, I, 156, No. 8; II, 87, No. 3.

spat out only the first mouthful and swallowed the rest (3).

3. Dalrymple, p. 194. He gives the name brete for areca nut.

• 272 273 The Spaniards also observed the manufacture of toddy (4),

4. Dalrymple, ibid.

which is not mentioned by any of the more recent authors. A tree, undoubtedly a palm, was tapped and a sweet sap was obtained from it, which resembled beto oil. It is not said whether this palm sap is only drunk fresh or whether, through fermentation, an intoxicating drink, the so-called "sour toddy," was obtained from it.

247 Finally, we must also mention the ornamental plants, which even Figueroa speaks of and which, according to him, were grown in special containers ("flower pots") close to the huts (5). The magnificent red flowers that he speaks of prob-

5. Dalrymple, p. 193. Cf. also Joest in Baessler, p. 371.

ably identifies the plant as hibiscus, which D'Urville lists
301 among the useful plants (6) and whose blossoms are a popular

[286] 6. D'Urville, p. 146. He suspects that the bast from it furnishes weaving material, but cf. p. 99.